# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF THE CLERK

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#### THE VOICE CASE INFORMATION SYSTEM (VCIS)

The Voice Case Information System (VCIS) uses a computer-generated synthesized voice device to read case and adversary proceeding information directly from the court's computer. This device permits you to call the computer from any touchtone telephone and obtain the following case information without assistance from a deputy clerk.

- ! Case Number
- ! Name(s) of debtor(s), or principal parties
- ! Case filing date
- ! Case chapter
- ! Debtor's attorney's name and phone number
- ! Trustee's name
- ! Assigned Judge's name
- ! Discharge and closing dates
- ! 341(a) meeting date, time, and location
- ! Case status
- ! Whether the case has assets

Depending on when the case was filed, some of the information listed above may not be available through **VCIS**. You may presently use **VCIS** to access information concerning all bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings filed on or after December 1, 1988. For a number of reasons, information concerning cases filed prior to this date may not be available through **VCIS**. Please call **VCIS** first. If you are unable to obtain the information you desire, please call the office for assistance.

### **WHAT YOU NEED**

A touch-tone telephone is the only equipment you

need to access **VCIS**. Instructions for using **VCIS** are attached to this notice.

#### **HOW VCIS WORKS**

VCIS searches for cases by participant name and reads you the information available for matching bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings. BANCAP data is posted to the VCIS data base at the close of each business day. As a result, information will typically appear in VCIS the business day followed its entry in BANCAP. New cases and adversary proceedings will typically in VCIS the second business day after filing.

#### SYSTEM AVAILABILITY

Except for the three hours (generally 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.) Required to update the **VCIS** data base each working day, **VCIS** is available around-the-clock, 365 days per year.

#### COST

**VCIS** is provided **free of charge.** It costs you nothing to quickly obtain critical bankruptcy case and adversary proceeding information using **VCIS**.

#### **USER INFORMATION**

For additional information concerning the use of **VCIS**, please contact Systems Manager at (401) 528-4477 ext. 40 or 45.

# OFFICE OF THE CLERK UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

## USING THE VOICE CASE INFORMATION SYSTEM (VCIS)

VCIS is easy to use. To access this information systems and obtain information concerning any District of Rhode Island bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding filed on or after December 1, 1988, and numerous bankruptcy cases filed prior to that date, please follow the instructions in steps 1 through 4 below.

- 1. Use a touch-tone telephone to dial (401) 528-4476 or toll free at 1-800-843-2841. A computer synthesized voice will answer the call, read instructions for obtaining case information, and ask you to enter a name.
- 2. Enter the name of a case participant by pressing the keys on your telephone that correspond to the letters in the name. Use the 1 key to enter the letters Q and Z; do not attempt to type in spaces between names, and characters (such as apostrophes and dashes) that are not letters.
  - a. If you wish to enter the name of an individual, enter the last name followed by the first name. For example, to enter the name **Joe O'Riley**, you should press the following keys:

О	R	Ι	L	Е	Y	J	О	Е
MNO	PRS	GHI	JKL	DEF	WXY	JKL	MN0	DEF
6	7	4	5	3	9	5	6	3

b. If you wish to enter the name of a company, type the company name, omitting suffixes such as Inc. and Corp. For example, to enter the name **Joe's Subs, Inc.**, you should press the following keys:

J	O E	E S	S S	J	J <b>B</b>	S	
JKL 5	MNO 6	DEF 3	PRS 7	PRS 7	TUV 8	ABC 2	PRS 7

3. Press the # key to tell the computer that the name has been entered. **VCIS** will search the data base for participants with names matching the one entered.

- a. If the data base contains more than four participants with names matching the one entered, **VCIS** will not read the available information for matching cases. In these instances, you should call the court at (401) 528-4477
- b. If the data base contains fewer than four participants with names matching the one entered, **VCIS** will tell you the number of matching cases in the data base.
  - 1) If the number of matching cases equals one, **VCIS** will read you the information available for that case.
  - 2) If the number of matching cases is greater than one but less than 11, **VCIS** will read you the available information for all matching cases.
    - a) If you wish to hear information for the next matching case, press the 5 key. You may do this while **VCIS** is reading or after it has read all the available information.
    - b) If you do not wish to hear information for additional matching cases, hang-up. You may do this while **VCIS** is reading or after it has read all the available information for a case.
  - 3) If the number of matching cases is 11 or greater, **VCIS** will tell you that too many cases have been selected and, to allow everyone fair access to the system, will read the available information for the first 10 matching cases only.
    - a) If you wish to hear information for the next matching case, press the 5 key. You may do this while **VCIS** is reading or after it has read all the available information for a case.
    - b) If you do not wish to hear information for additional matching cases, hang-up. You may do this while **VCIS** is reading or after it has read all the available information for a case.
    - c) If the case you are interested in is not one of the ten matching cases read, call the clerk's office for assistance.
  - 4) If the data base contains no participants with names that match the one entered, **VCIS** will tell you that no cases for that name are on the computer. Call the Clerk's office for assistance.
- 4. After reading the information available for the matching case or cases, or telling you no cases for that name are on the computer, **VCIS** will disconnect you. To obtain information concerning additional cases, repeat steps 1 through 3.

For additional information concerning **VCIS** or to report system problems, contact Systems Manager at (401) 528-4477 ext. 40 or ext. 45.